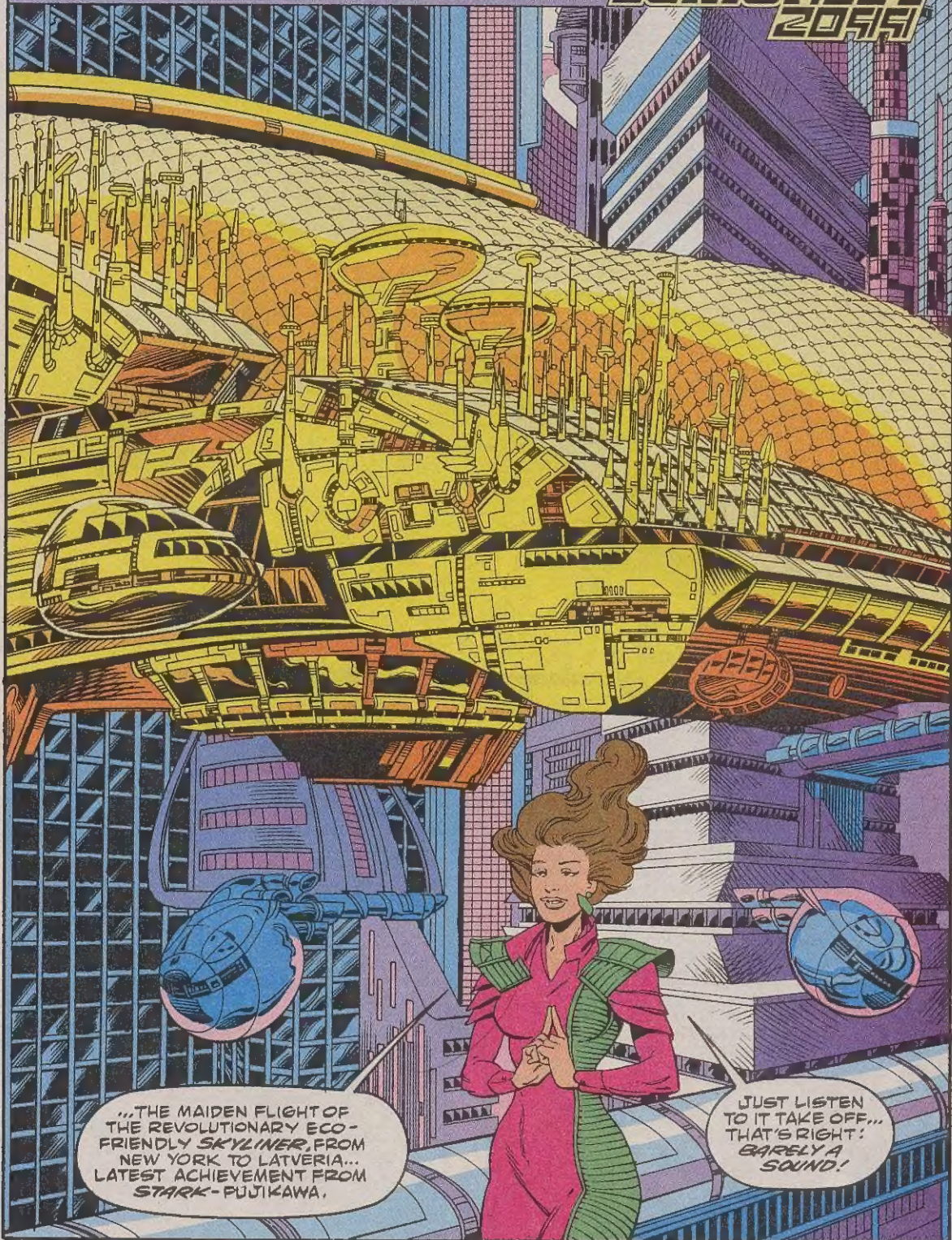


HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD FASHIONED PUNISHMENT ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT JAKE GALLOWES... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE PUBLIC EYE POLICE FORCE BY DAY, AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTIBLE JUSTICE.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

THE PUNISHER 2099



...THE MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ECO-FRIENDLY SKYLINER, FROM NEW YORK TO LATVERIA... LATEST ACHIEVEMENT FROM STARK-PUJIKAWA.

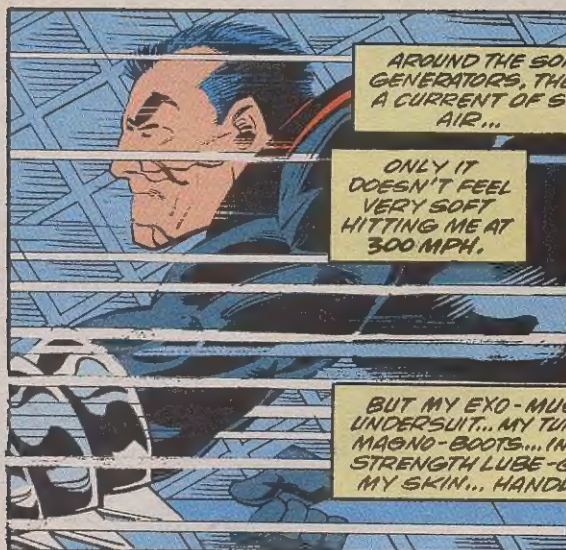
JUST LISTEN TO IT TAKE OFF... THAT'S RIGHT! BARELY A SOUND!



Stan
Lee
PRESENTS:

HARD SKY

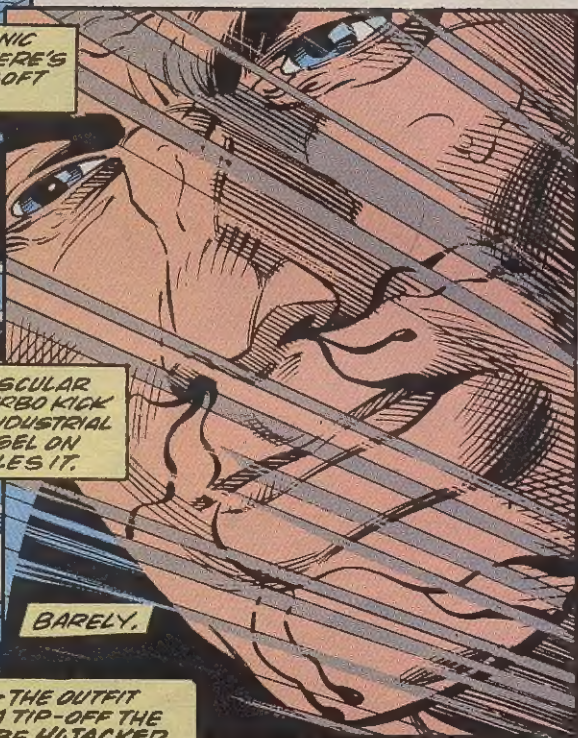
PAT MILLS & TONY SKINNER WRITERS	ART NICHOLS PENCILER	JOHN NYBERG INKER	ROD OLLERENSHAW LETTERER	MARIE SEVERIN COLORIST	JOEY CAVALIERI EDITOR	TOM DEFALCO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
--	----------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------



AROUND THE SONIC GENERATORS, THERE'S A CURRENT OF SOFT AIR...

ONLY IT DOESN'T FEEL VERY SOFT HITTING ME AT 300 MPH.

BUT MY EXO-MUSCULAR UNDERSUIT... MY TURBO KICK MAGNO-BOOTS... INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH LUBE-GEL ON MY SKIN... HANDLES IT.

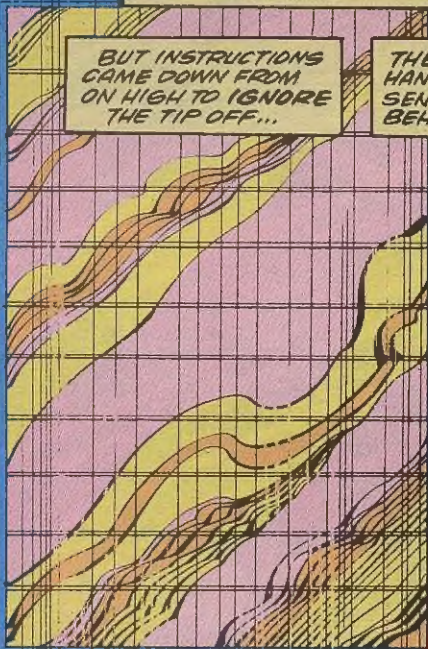


BARELY.

THE PUBLIC EYE-THE OUTFIT I WORK FOR-GOT A TIP-OFF THE SKYLINER WOULD BE HIJACKED FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER TAKE OFF...

BUT INSTRUCTIONS CAME DOWN FROM ON HIGH TO IGNORE THE TIP OFF...

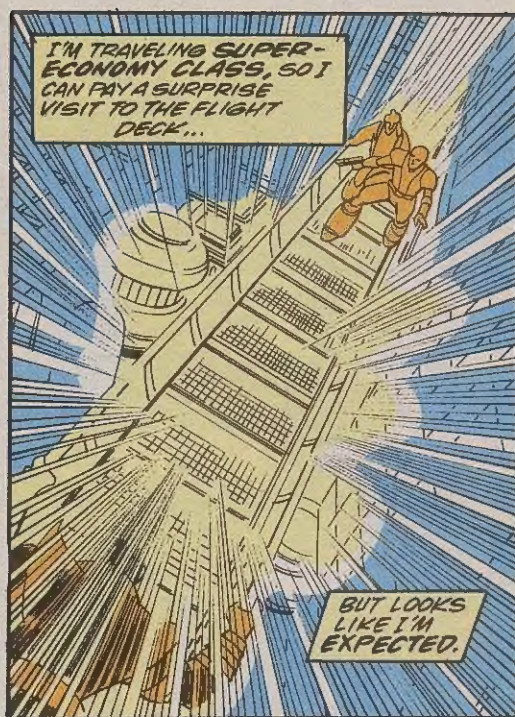
THE SAME MYSTERY HAND I'VE OFTEN SENSED WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES...

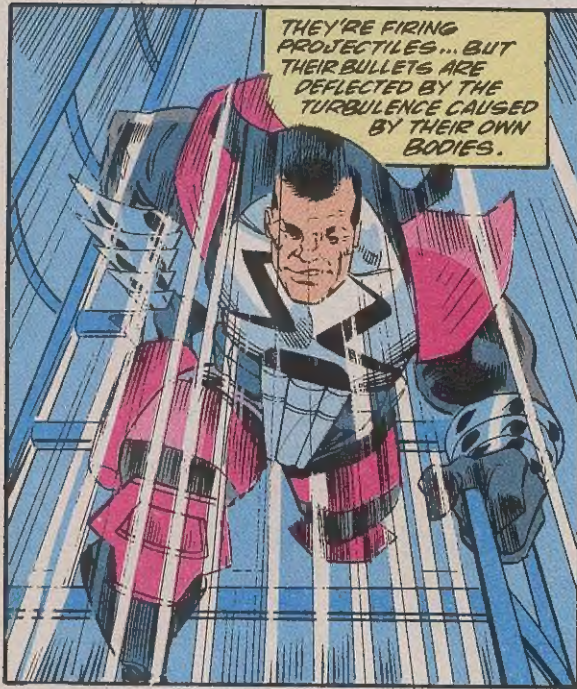


AND WHEN THE LAW WON'T ACT...

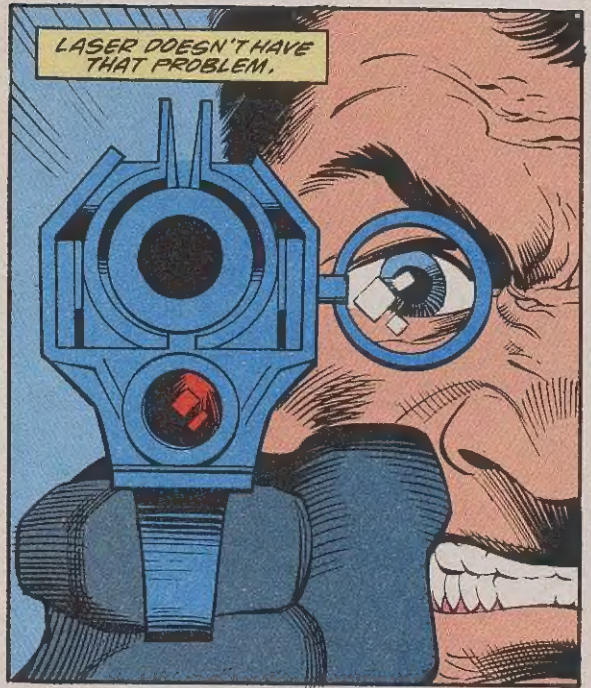
THE PUNISHER DOES.



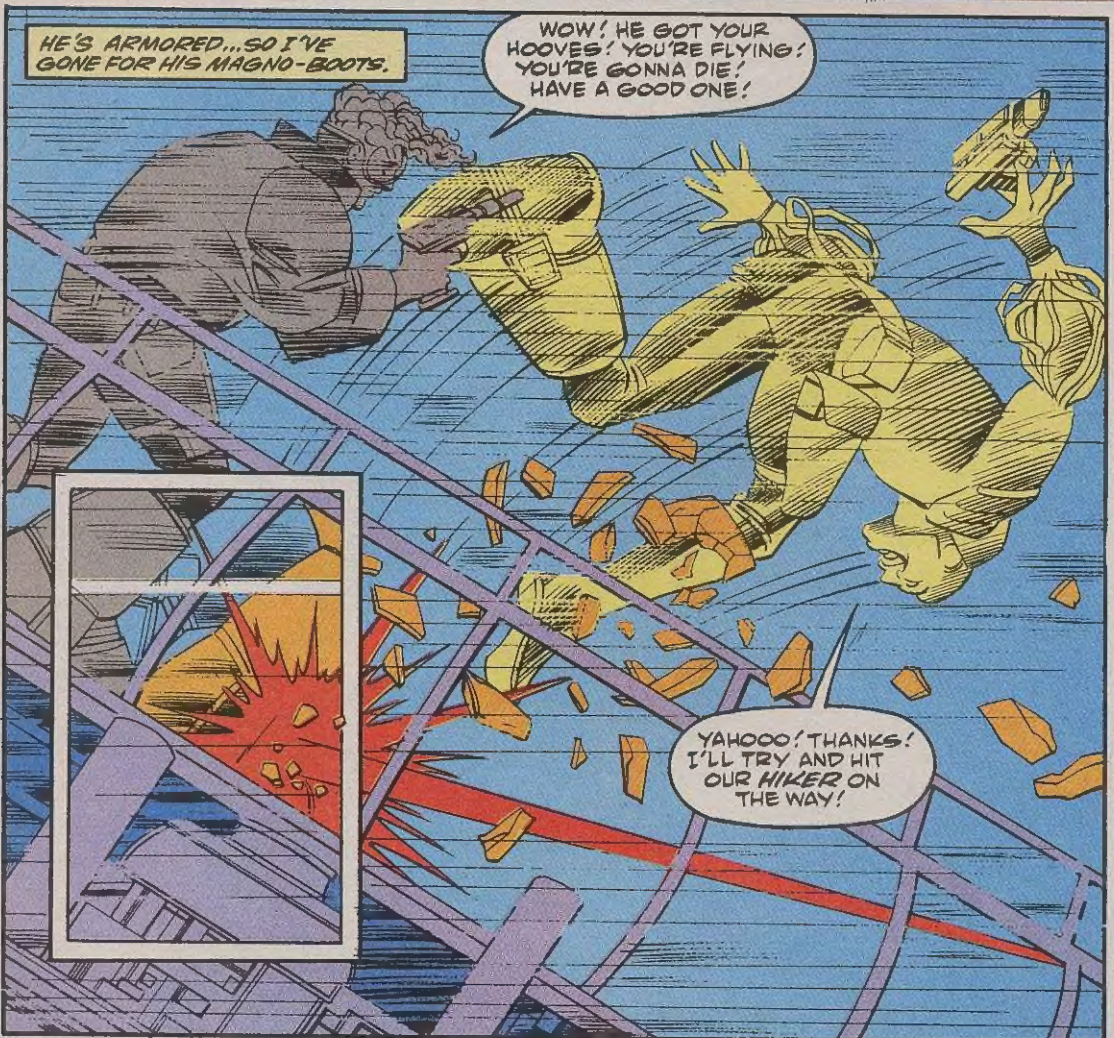




THEY'RE FIRING PROJECTILES... BUT THEIR BULLETS ARE DEFLECTED BY THE TURBULENCE CAUSED BY THEIR OWN BODIES.



LASER DOESN'T HAVE THAT PROBLEM.



HE'S ARMORED... SO I'VE GONE FOR HIS MAGNO-BOOTS.

WOW! HE GOT YOUR HOOVES! YOU'RE FLYING! YOU'RE GONNA DIE! HAVE A GOOD ONE!

YAHOOO! THANKS! I'LL TRY AND HIT OUR HIKER ON THE WAY!

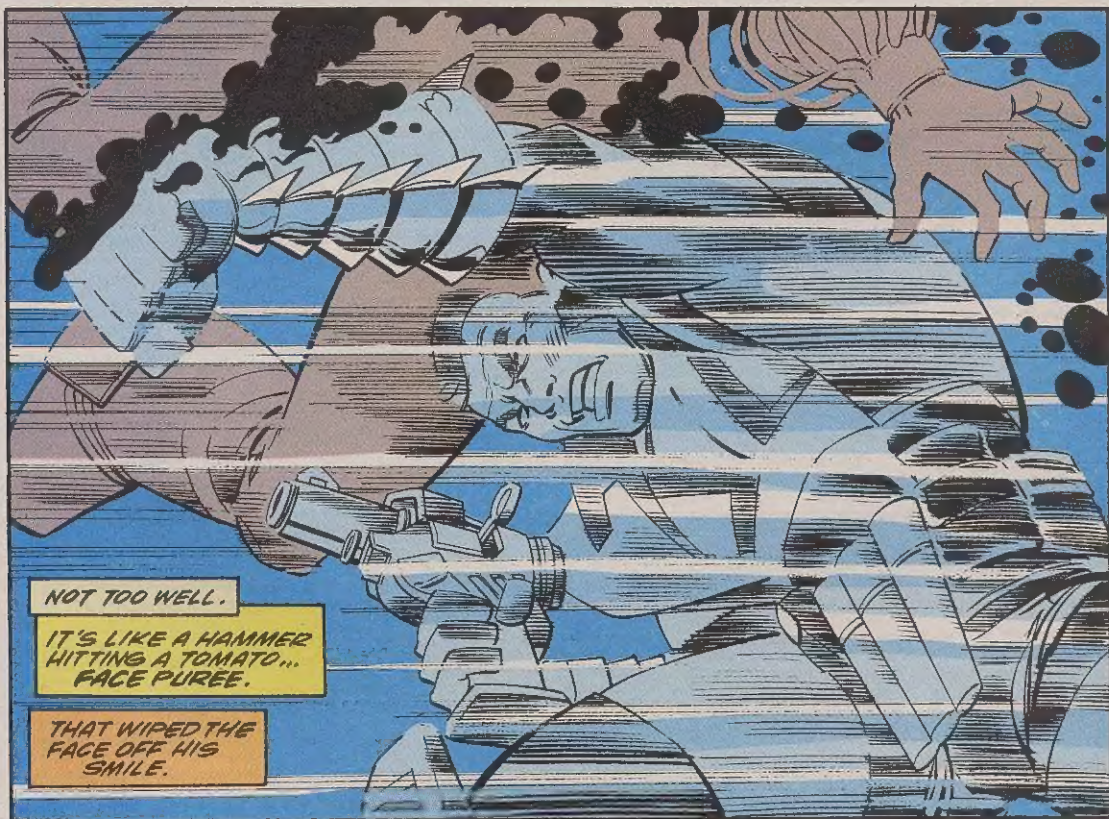


WHEEE!
SMILE, MAN!
I JOIN YOU
IN DEATH!

HE'S
FLYING
TOWARDS
ME AT
300
MPH!



LET'S SEE
HOW HIS
GRIN COPIES
WITH THIS!



NOT TOO WELL.

IT'S LIKE A HAMMER
HITTING A TOMATO...
FACE PUREE.

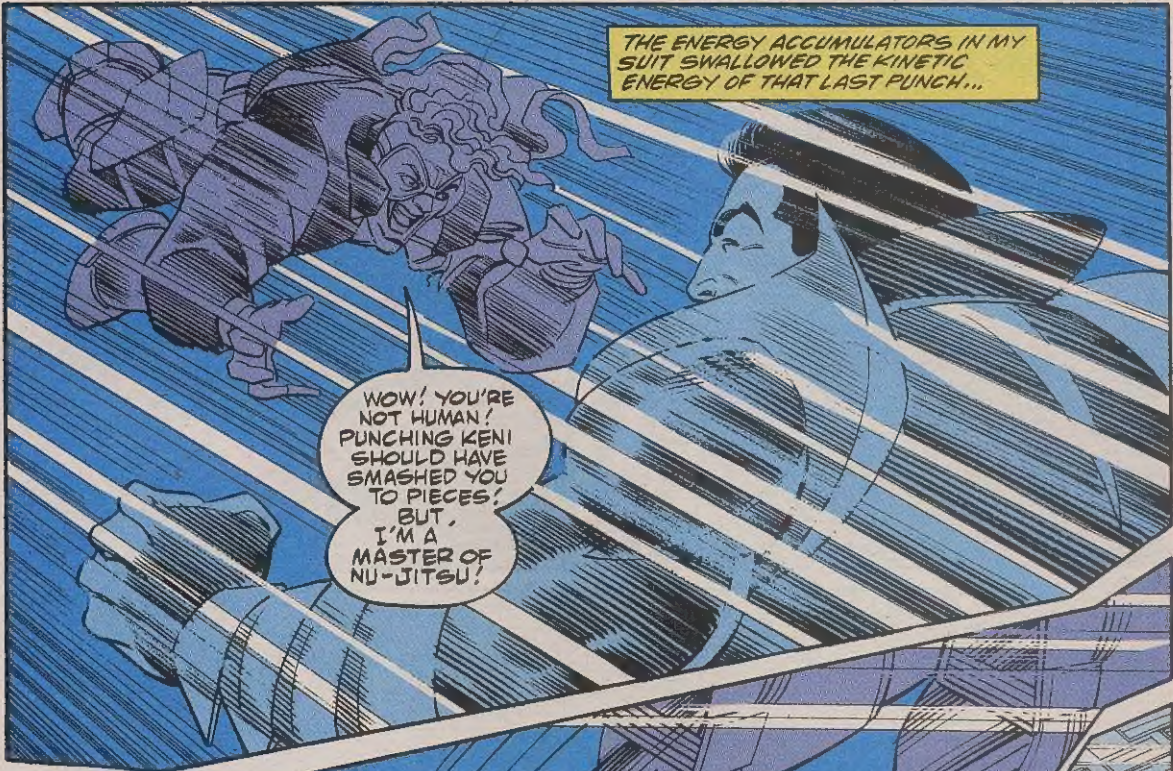
THAT WIRED THE
FACE OFF HIS
SMILE.



NICE TRICK!
BET I CAN
DO IT...

HERE
GO MY
BOOTS!

CHK
KLAK!
KLAK!



THE ENERGY ACCUMULATORS IN MY SUIT SWALLOWED THE KINETIC ENERGY OF THAT LAST PUNCH...

WOW! YOU'RE NOT HUMAN! PUNCHING KENI SHOULD HAVE SMASHED YOU TO PIECES! BUT, I'M A MASTER OF NU-JITSU!

...SO, I GIVE THIS GUY A 600 MPH TAP.

HE'S DEFLECTED UPWARDS...

KLANG!

TRY THIS! IT'S A BIT OF OLD JITSU!

...STRAIGHT INTO THE STANDING WAVE OF SOLID AIR AROUND THE LINER...

THE HARD SKY.

HE'S INSTANT PIZZA.

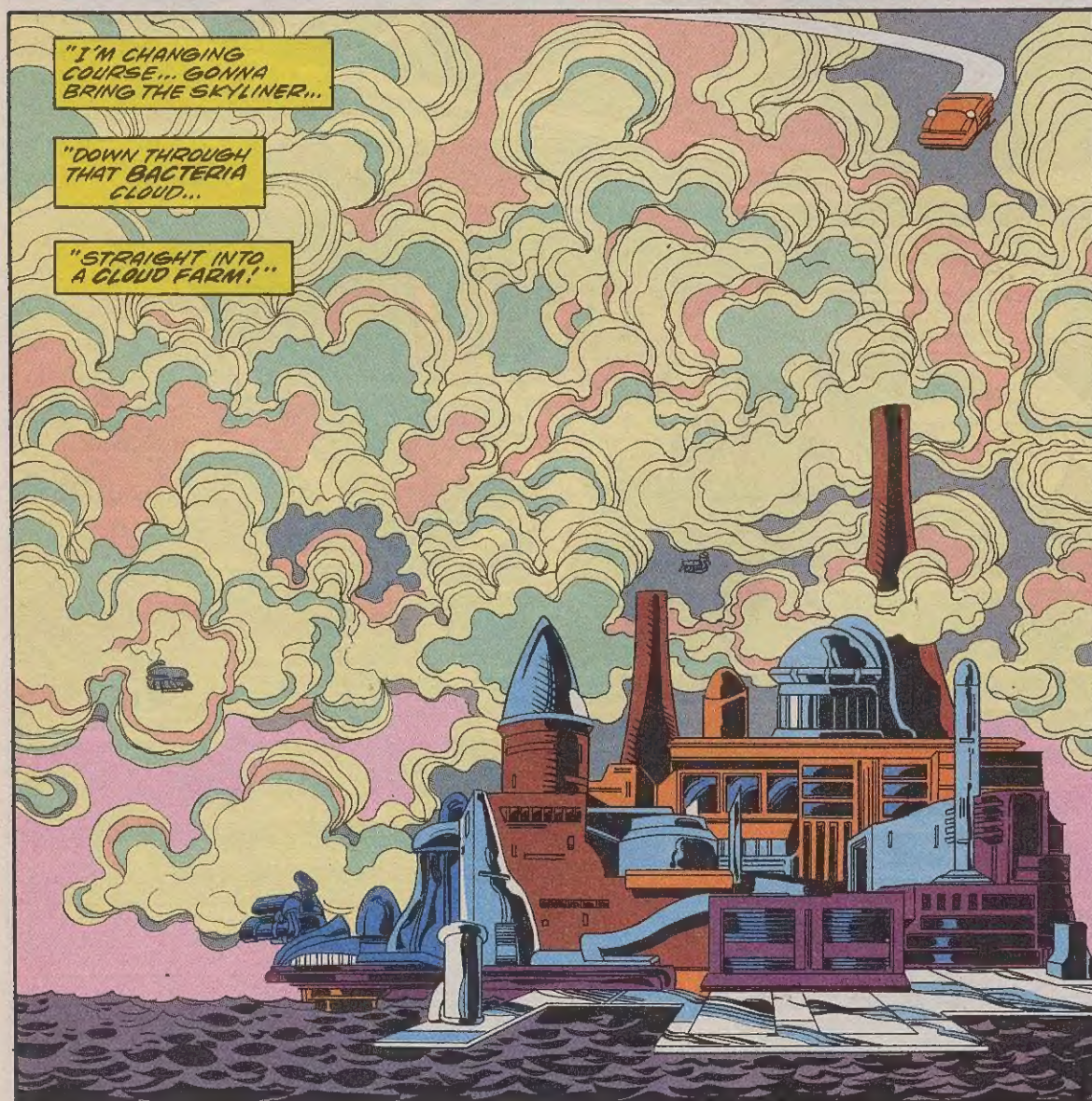


SHOCK! IT'S THE
PUNISHER!



WELL, IF HE'S
SUCH A LOVER
OF THE
OUTDOORS...

I'VE GOT
JUST THE
VERY THING
FOR HIM...



"I'M CHANGING
COURSE... GONNA
BRING THE SKYLINER..."

"DOWN THROUGH
THAT BACTERIA
CLOUD..."

"STRAIGHT INTO
A CLOUD FARM!"



*****! CLOUD FARM...SYNTHIA AGRI-BUSINESS SEEDS THE HOLES IN THE OZONE LAYER WITH GENETICALLY PRODUCED BACTERIA...

AND WE'RE DIVING RIGHT INTO IT!

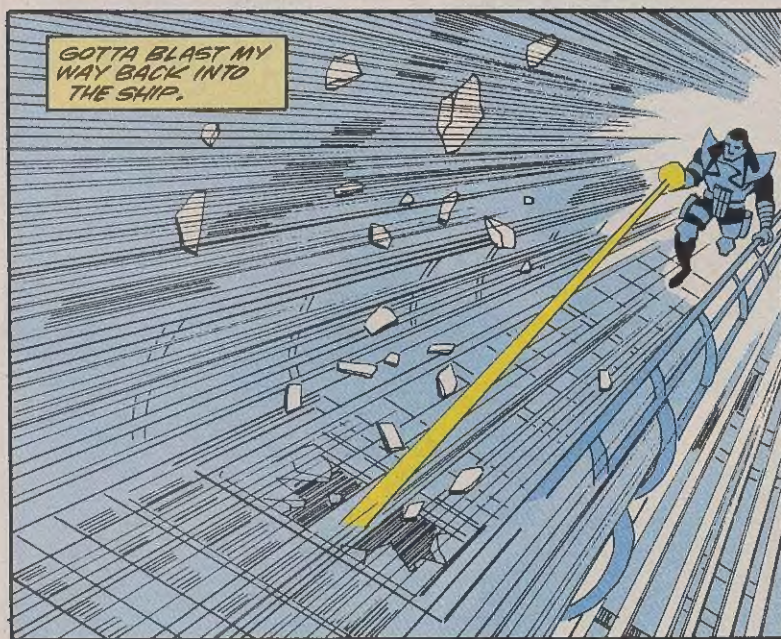


THE BUGS THRIVE ON THE HARSH ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION-UNTIL THEY REACH COAGULATION MASS AND ARE THEN SCOOPED UP BY FLYING HARVESTERS.

THEY MAKE FOOD OUT OF THIS MUCK!



THE BACTERIA EAT ANYTHING ORGANIC-INCLUDING PUNISHERS!



GOTTA BLAST MY WAY BACK INTO THE SHIP.



JUST IN TIME... WE'RE INSIDE THE CLOUD!

I'M OPENING
THE AIR VENTS
TO GIVE OUR
PASSENGERS
A TREAT...

"INSTEAD OF THEM WAITING
FOR THEIR SYNTHI-BURGERS,
THEY CAN HAVE THEM
FRESH AND RAW!"

UUUGH!
WET
BACTERIA!

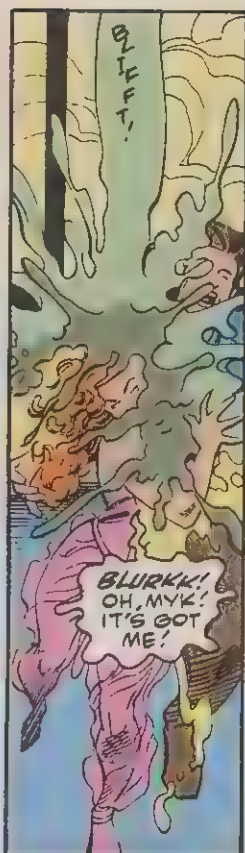
SAFETY
SYSTEMS
OFF
BRIDGE
SEALED

IT'S LIKE
UNTREATED
SEWAGE!
OH, SHOCK!
THE
STINK!

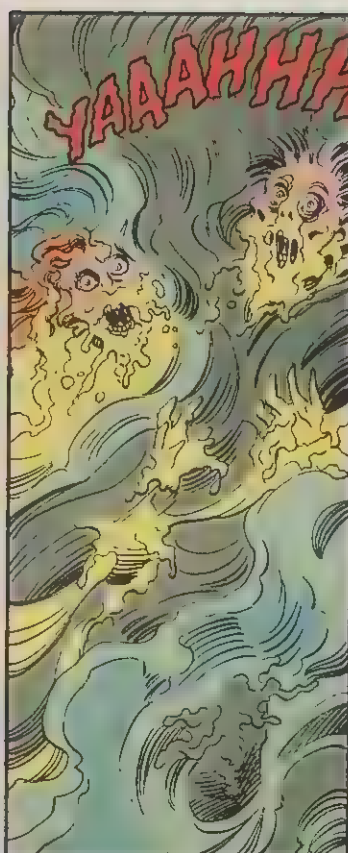
AAAAH!
IT
BURNS!



THIS WAY, HONEY! RUN!



BLURKK!
OH, MYK!
IT'S GOT ME!

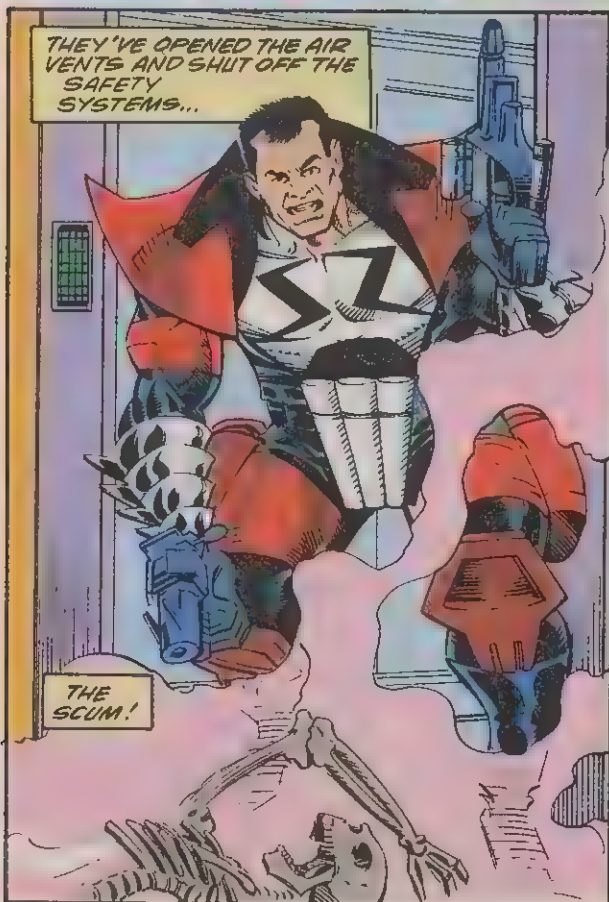


YAAAAHHH!



GROAK!

HURSSSS



THEY'VE OPENED THE AIR VENTS AND SHUT OFF THE SAFETY SYSTEMS...

THE SCUM!

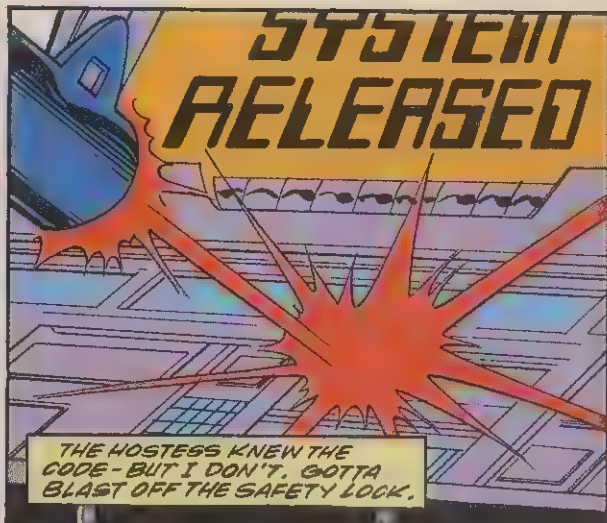


THE HOSTESS DIDN'T MANAGE TO HIT THE MANUAL OVER-RIDE...

POOR GIRL... SHE DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE. WHAT A HORRIBLE WAY TO DIE.

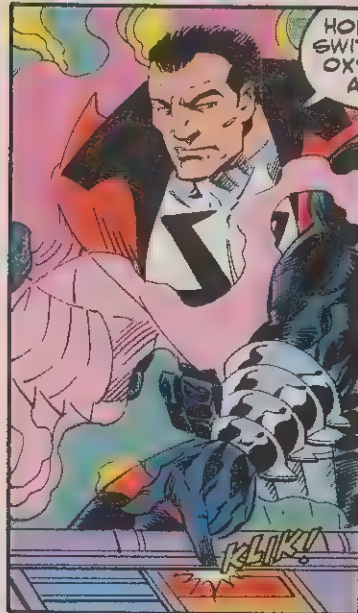


I CAN FEEL THIS GUNGE
EATING THROUGH MY
SUIT... DISSOLVING THE
GREASE ON MY SKIN...
BUT IF I CAN JUST
REACH THE SAFETY
CONTROLS...



SYSTEM RELEASED

THE HOSTESS KNEW THE
CODE - BUT I DON'T. GOTTA
BLAST OFF THE SAFETY LOCK.



HOLD UP, PEOPLE... I'M
SWITCHING ON THE
OXYGEN MASKS AND
AUTO-CLEANERS!

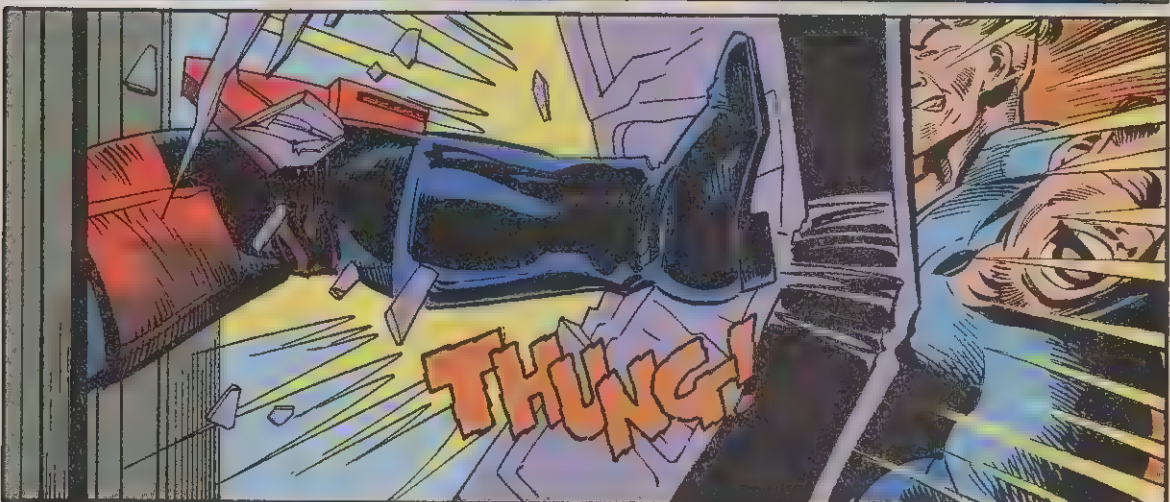
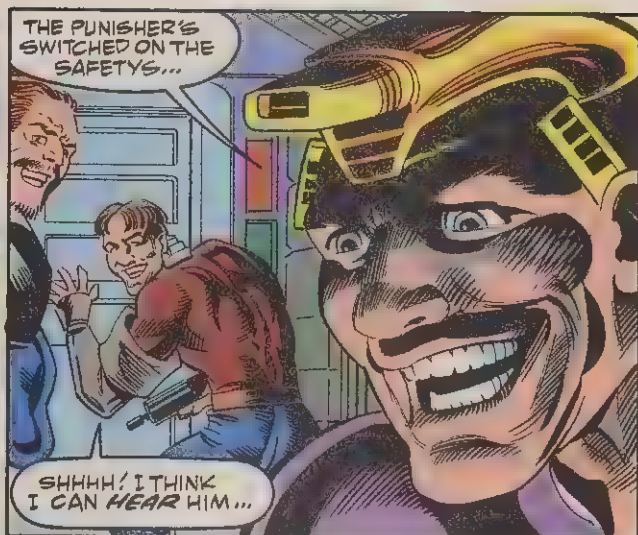


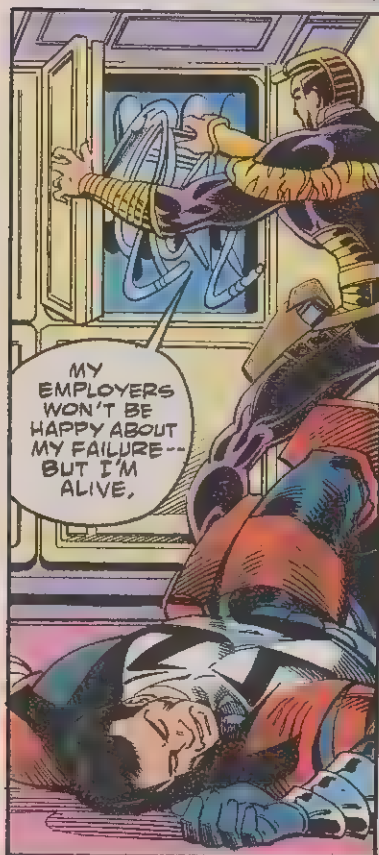
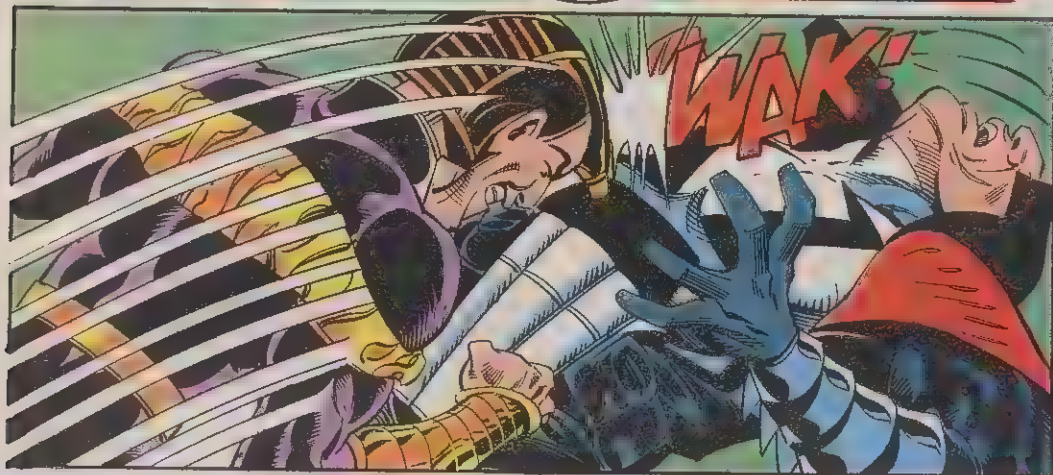
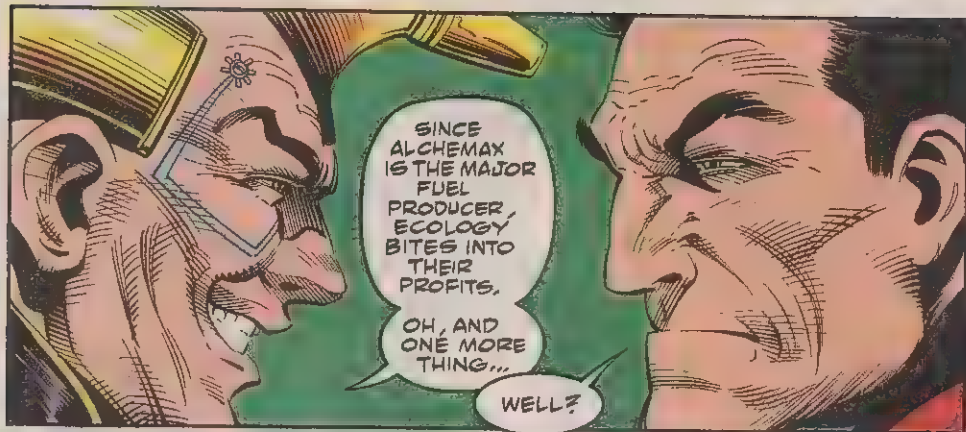
THEY'LL SUCK UP
THE BACTERIA BEFORE
IT REACHES ANYONE
ELSE.

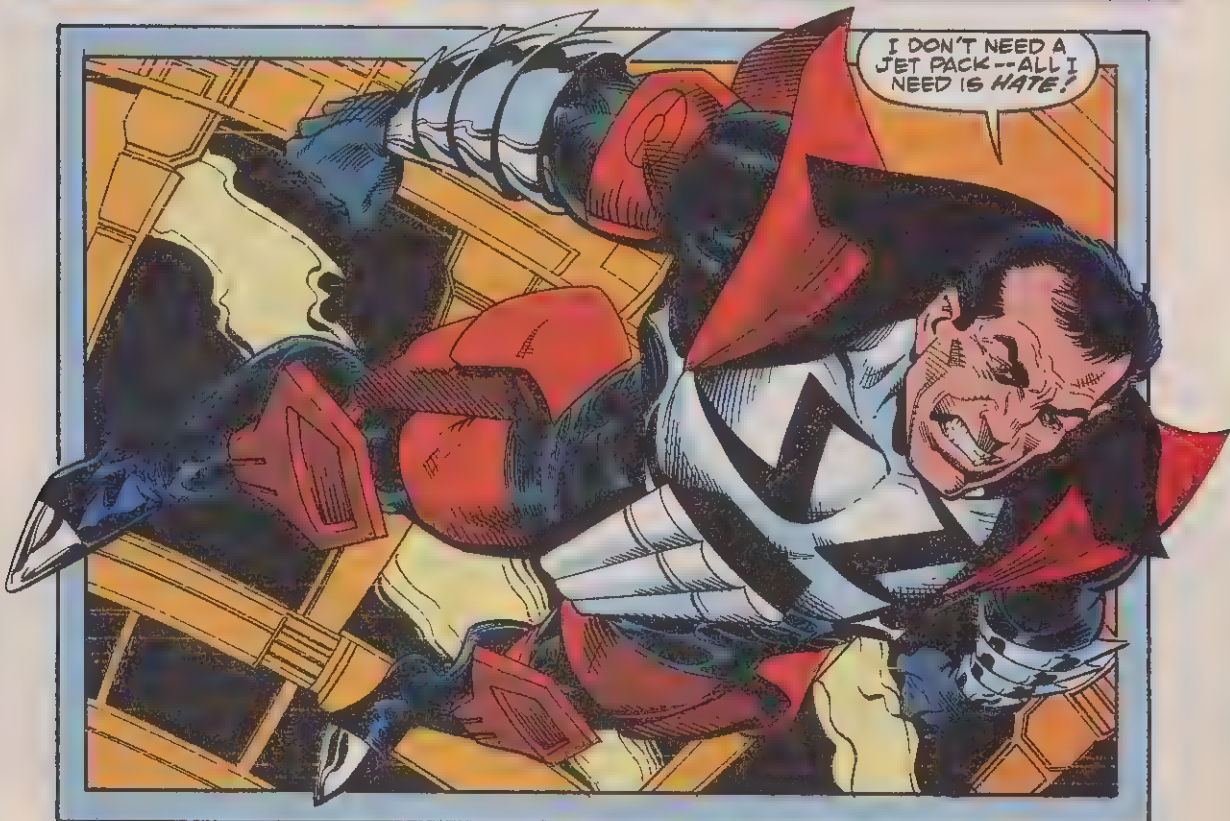
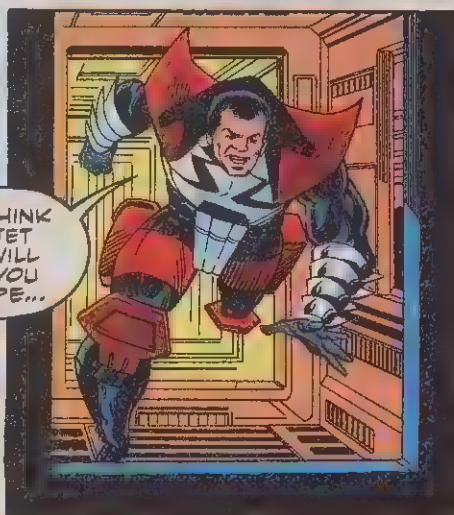
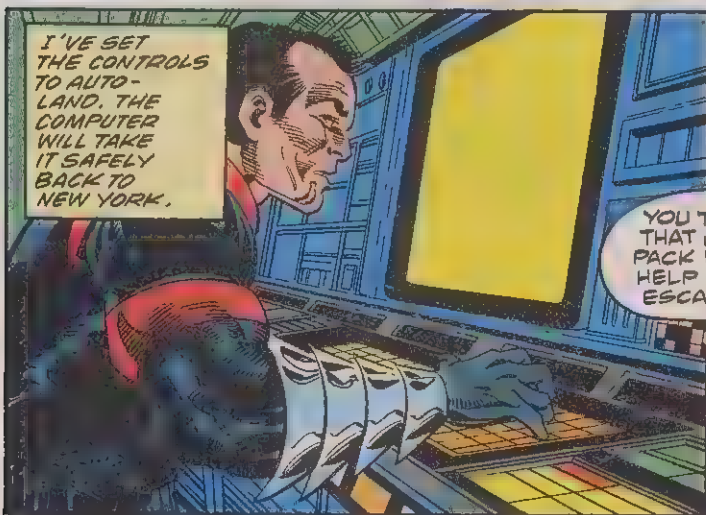
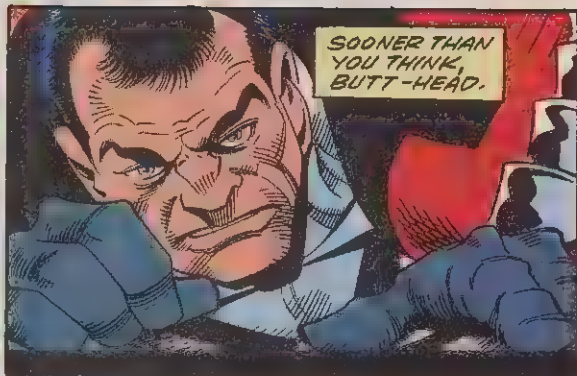
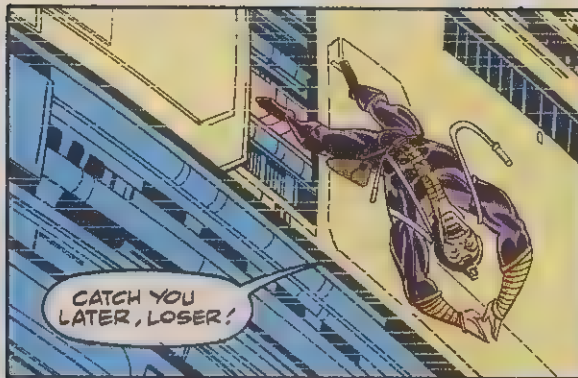
HURRY,
PLEASE!




AND NOW TO
WIPE OUT THE
REALLY DANGEROUS
BACTERIA.









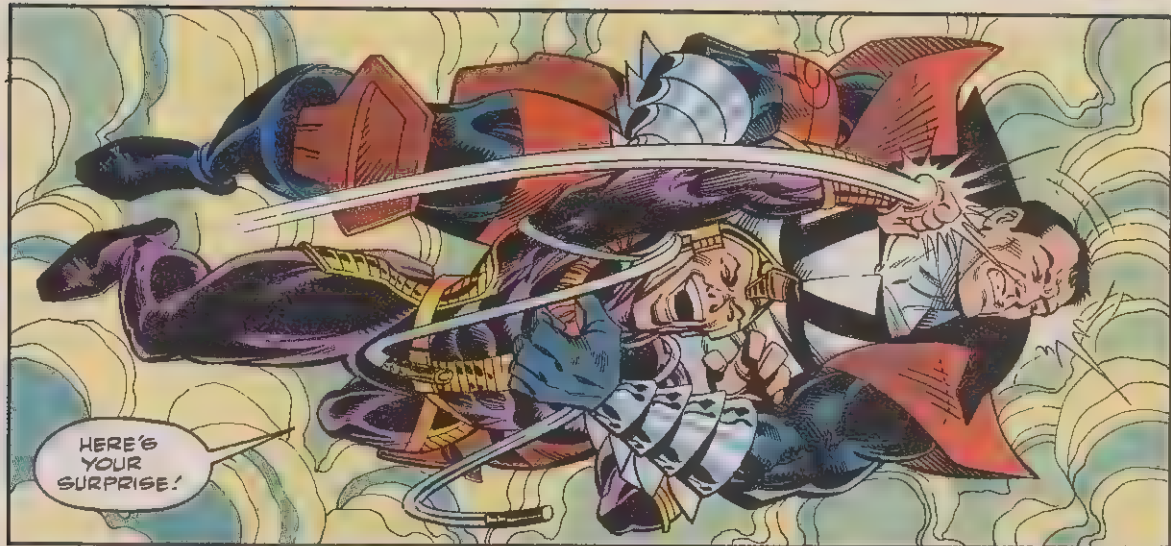
HIS JET PACK WON'T
KICK IN UNTIL HE'S A
THOUSAND FEET FROM
THE GROUND: SAFETY
FEATURE IN CASE OF
MASS EVACUATION.

SO IF I KNIFE
THROUGH THE AIR,
I'LL GO FASTER...

THERE'S THE
WARNING SMOKE...
THE JET WILL
START IN 30 SECS.

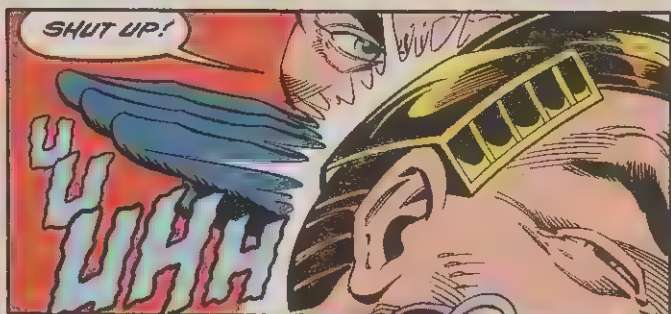
GOTCHA!

WOW!
SURPRISE!
I LIKE
SURPRISES!



HERE'S
YOUR
SURPRISE!

ONLY FIVE SECONDS LEFT
BEFORE THE JET KICKS IN!
GOTTA END THIS QUICK...
TAKE HIS PACK...



YOU...YOU
REALIZE
THIS PACK
WON'T
CARRY
BOTH
OF US?

FOOM!

YOU'RE
RIGHT...

YOU REALLY ARE
A PERSISTENT
HITCHER, PUNISHER...
BUT I ...

BULLPEN BULLETINS



TOM TALKS

Have you ever noticed how many rumors you hear in the course of a day? Rumors about friends, enemies, politicians, celebrities, and people you don't even know? Some publications and television shows are devoted to spreading gossip!

The comic book industry also has its share of rumors. How many times have you walked into a comic book store and heard the "real" reason why a certain creative person quit a title, a particular comic is priced a certain way, or a favorite character is being killed? The people spreading these rumors usually claim to have inside sources of information. They rarely do.

So where do they get their facts? Simple! They make them up! They present personal opinions and idle speculation as hard data.

In case you haven't noticed, this is an industry of story-tellers. We're constantly weaving tales of moral heroes who fight against overwhelming odds to defeat monstrous villains! It's a familiar scenario. There's always a good guy and a bad guy. You've seen it in countless comics. You routinely hear it in the rumor mill.

Most people like to portray themselves as heroes, and their enemies as villains. They like to emphasize victories, and ignore defeats. They take credit for triumphs, and blame mistakes on others.

Think about that the next time you read any interview or article. Think about the next time someone tells you the "inside" facts about the comic book industry ... or any other industry for that matter.

Stories are our business.
Our only business.

Thanks for being there,

Tom D.

Tom D.

MIGHTY MARVEL
FAN PHONE (516) 352-1212
IT'S THE COST OF A REGULAR
CALL FROM ANYWHERE IN
THE UNITED STATES AND
WON'T EXCEED 35 CENTS.
YOUR INSIDE CONNECTION AT MARVEL

Head any good rumors lately? There are a few of them floating around the Marvel Universe this past year, and we thought we'd take this page to lay a few of them to rest, while obscuring others.

Rumor: Tom DeFalco has been fired as Editor-In-Chief of Marvel Comics and replaced with Fabian Nicleza, Roy Thomas, or Mark Gruenwald.

The Truth: Tom has *not* been fired, nor has he quit. In fact, Tom will be in charge of Marvel Comics at least until the year 2099, if not beyond! Fabian wouldn't take the job — he couldn't afford the pay cut! Roy is happy writing 80 pages of CONAN a month, plus FANTASTIC FOUR UNLIMITED, and whatever else he can work in. And Mark is the world's most contented second banana.

Rumor: The FANTASTIC FOUR is being cancelled and replaced with a comic called FANTASTIC FORCE.

The Truth: The FANTASTIC FOUR is *not* being cancelled. We wouldn't cancel the World's Greatest Comics Magazine now, would we? Especially not with a movie version *rarin'* to be released. As for FANTASTIC FORCE, does the term "spin-off" mean anything to you?

Rumor: Marvel will soon be publishing 200 titles a month.

The Truth: This is a ridiculous, completely unfounded rumor. The truth is that we will eventually be publishing 300 titles a month! We want every Marveloid to be able to read ten new Marvels a day (which, by the way, is the U.S. Recommended Daily Allowance!) You read it here first ... 300 titles a month by January 2099!

Rumor: Associate editor Mike Lackey is quitting comics to become a pro-wrestler.

The Truth: This one is true.

Rumor: All the Executive Editors at Marvel are going to be fired and replaced with X-Men Group Editor Bob Harras.

The Truth: This is another preposterous one. Anyone

who knows Bob knows that he has no interest in taking over the company. Bob is much too busy ruling his X-Empire, which encompasses not only comics, but also video games, toys, a Saturday morning cartoon series ... Let's face it, Bob is more powerful than any Executive Editor could ever be!

Rumor: Marvel President Terry Stewart is running for President of the United States in '96.

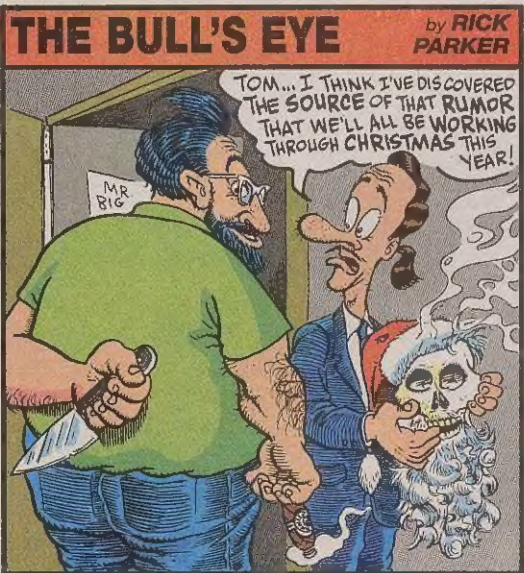
The Truth: This one is not true, but we hear Ross Perot may be looking for a new running mate, so who can say ...?

Rumor: Stan Lee is leaving Marvel to work for the competition.

The Truth: Stan Lee is *not* leaving Marvel! Stan is one of the founding fathers of Marvel-dom. Stan is a good father — he would never turn his back on his babies! He is the Walt Disney to our mouse ... the Hugh Hefner to our rabbit ... the Steven Spielberg to our dinosaur.

And besides, it would break his heart to look at the top of each of our mighty mags and see the words, "Tom DeFalco Presents ..."

Those are just a few of the rumors floating around the offices these days. Glad we were able to clear the air. Till next time, remember, a rumor is not true unless we made it up first!



HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ AVENGERS STRIKE FILE #1: Pin-ups, short stories, & more!
- ☐ DAREDEVIL: MAN WITHOUT FEAR #4 OF 5: Crushed by the Kingpin!
- ☐ DEATHLOK #31: Deathlok, 1970s model vs. Deathlok, 1990s model!
- ☐ HELLSTORM #10: Daimon fights

- ☐ his Dad!
- ☐ HOKUM & HEX #5: With Bloodshed for all!
- ☐ MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #146: All Midnight Sons issue!
- ☐ MARVEL SPOTLIGHT DECEMBER 1993: Free checklist!
- ☐ METEOR MAN #6 OF 6: Based on the hit movie!

- ☐ NEW WARRIORS #43: Marvel Boy is back — with a new name and costume!
- ☐ PUNISHER 2099 #12: Valhalla comes tumbling down!
- ☐ SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #208: "Siege of Darkness" crossover!

- ☐ STRANGE COMBAT TALES #4 OF 4: Gory, bloody action!
- ☐ WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWLORDS! #17: Concluding TEKWLORDS!
- ☐ VENOM: THE MADNESS #3 OF 3: Jostled by the Juggernaut!
- ☐ X-FORCE #30: Save up your quarters — Arcade is back!



BUT FIRST I'M
RIPPING OUT
YOUR FUN GUN...



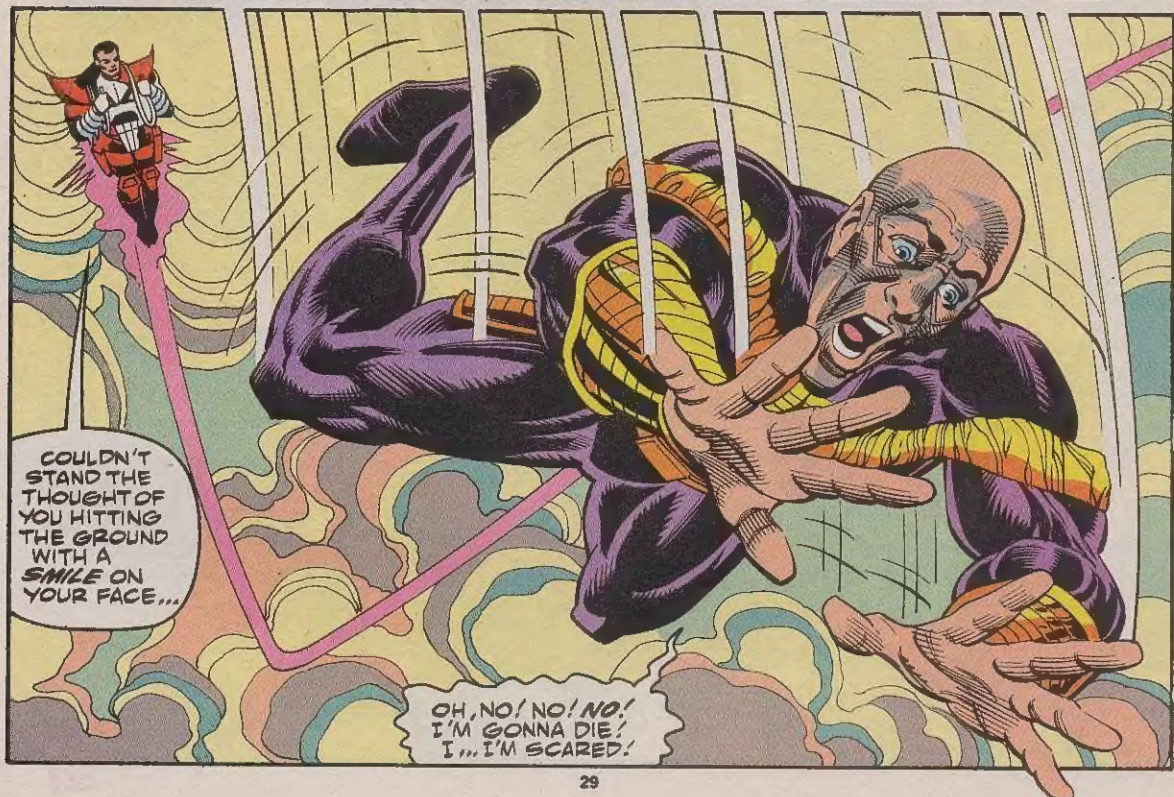
AND THAT
STUPID WIRE
YOU STICK IN
YOUR HEAD...!

AAARGH!



AND NEXT...

I'M
TAKING YOUR
TRANSPORT.



COULDN'T
STAND THE
THOUGHT OF
YOU HITTING
THE GROUND
WITH A
SMILE ON
YOUR FACE...

OH, NO! NO! NO!
I'M GONNA DIE!
I... I'M SCARED!

AFTER ALL,
I AM THE
PUNISHER!



TARGET PRACTICE

Joey Cavalleri, Editor • Matthew Morra, Assistant Editor
c/o Marvel Comics • 387 Park Avenue South • New York, New York 10016

All letters for publication must include your name and address, although we will gladly withhold that info upon request.

Out Of My Head

Not to worry, not to sweat. Tom Morgan and Jimmy Palmiotti will be back next ish.

Meanwhile, this issue's pretty darn cool, what with Artie Five Cents and John Nyberg and all.

As always, your comments are appreciated.

Dear Target Practice,

I have been reading the 2099 titles and the best one to date is PUNISHER 2099. I love blood and guts comics. I think the Punisher is like me—a bad dude. Just one question: when you show blood, why is it black?

Colin McCauley
917 Diamond Park
Meadville, PA 16335

Isn't everybody's?

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (REQUIRED BY 39 U.S.C. 3685)

Title of Publication: PUNISHER 2099
18. Publication No.: 009-009
2. Date of Filing: October 1, 1993
3. Frequency of Issue: MONTHLY
3A. No. of issues published annually: 12
3B. Annual subscription price: \$15.00/12 issues
4. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016
5. Complete address of the headquarters of general business offices of the publisher: Same.
6. Full names and complete mailing address of publisher, editor, and managing editor: Stan Lee, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. Editor: Joey Cavalleri, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016. Managing Editor: N/A
7. Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, its name and address must be stated.) Approximately 50% of the Common Stock Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. is owned indirectly through wholly-owned subsidiaries by Malco Holdings Inc., 35 East 62nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10021. The balance of Marvel's Common Stock is publicly owned. The shares of Marvel's Common Stock are listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange.
8. Known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities:
9. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates (DMM Section 424.12 only). The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (check one): ☐ Has not changed during preceding 12 months. ☐ Has changed during preceding 12 months. (If changed, publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement.)
10. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION
A. Total No. Copies Printed (net press run) Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 407,958. Actual no. of single issue nearest to filing date: 285,600.
B. Paid and/or requested Circulation: (1) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 310,575. Actual no. copies single issue nearest to filing date: 203,800. (2) Mail subscriptions: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 3,333. Actual no. copies single issue nearest to filing date: 3,700.
C. Total Paid and/or requested Circulation (sum of 10B1 and 10B2): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 313,908. Actual no. copies single issue nearest to filing date: 207,500.
D. Free Distribution by mail, carrier, or other means, samples, complimentary, and other free copies: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 125. Actual no. copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 125.
E. Total Distribution (sum of C and D): Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 314,033. Actual no. copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 207,625.
F. Copies Not Distributed: (1) Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 500. Actual no. copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 500. (2) Returns from News Agents: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 93,425. Actual no. copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 77,475.
G. Total (sum of E, F1 and 2 should equal net press run shown in A): Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 407,958. Actual no. copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 285,600.
H. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
(signed) Diane Rivera — Business Manager

Dear Target Practice,

I love all the Punisher's awesome weapons, especially the needle gun! You guys are either lunatics or complete geniuses!

How does the Punisher stay sane? I mean his family was killed by a psychopath and his girlfriend is a giant ice cube. I don't think I could handle it all.

Tyler Cumbaa
5703 Timber Ridge Dr.
Louisville, KY 40059

Jake's having trouble handling it all too, Ty, and his grip on sanity is definitely getting weaker.

Dear Target Practice,

I've been collecting Punisher comics for about three years and I think PUNISHER 2099 is the best one. It's every bit as good as the regular ones except with better drawings and cooler, more exciting ideas.

Jake Gallow's is the perfect Punisher. His symbol is a lot better too. His weapons are great, and perfect for the setting of 2099. They make it seem a lot more like the future. That's why I think you should make a Punisher 2099 Armory; it would be really cool.

Collin Sniff
11805 Rolling Hills
Wichita, KS 67212

It would be cool, Collin. If enough of you ask for it, we'll consider adding the project to our regular six titles (plus the SPIDER-MAN 2099 ANNUAL and another new series planned for 1994)!

Dear Target Practice,

I love the 2099 titles. The way you guys built an entire new world is great. I also like how Jake uses the Punisher's old ways of justice combined with the modern means of punishment. When are we going to see more of that fantastic motorcycle of Jake's that can go as fast as 800 m.p.h.? Also, what kind of villain is the Fearmaster? Whatever he is, I'm sure he means trouble for our new hero with an attitude.

Brian Nieves
8 Hollywood St.
Worcester, MA 01610

You'll be seeing lots more of Jake's new and improved bike in the future, Brian. Tom Morgan just re-designed it last ish. As for the Fearmaster, he's the head of the Cyber-Nostra (2099's organized crime) and the Public Eye (2099's police force). He's also a vice-president of Alchemax who was given the power to turn living flesh into any substance by — we think — aliens from outer space.

Dear Target Practice,

Of the many series Marvel puts out, I must say one of my favorites is PUNISHER 2099. I have every one so far and enjoy every bit of them. The drawings are great and the ideas along with them are excellent. I would also like to mention one of the ideas I really like is the prison he has

downstairs. I have a question though: does Matt Axel have a story behind him or is he just a friend? So, Pat, Tony, Tom, Jimmy, Ken, Ian, Joey, Matt and Tommy De... keep up the good work!

James Guertib
8 West Harris Ave.
Moorestown, NJ 08057

There is most certainly a story behind Matt Axel, Jim, one which Pat and Tony will reveal real soon.

Dear Target Practice,

I'd just like to say what a fine job all of you are doing. Whose idea was the power-bat? I think it's really cool.

Bryan Gault
350 S. Mark Dr.
North Vernon, IN 47265

The credit goes to Pat and Tony, Bryan, the experts of 2099 cool.

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

Spider-Man 2099 #16 This is it! The sensational start of the major Marvel event, "The Fall of the Hammer!" Hey! All the Ron Lim/AI Williamson covers fit together to form one awe-inspiring panorama! (Meaning, we didn't learn our lesson when we tried it on DOOM 2099!)

Ravage 2099 #15 The crossover continues! The X-Men (2099 vintage, of course) meet the Beastman himself!

X-Men 2099 #5 Think Lyle's one of a kind? Wait'll you meet Serinal Plus, the whereabouts of Jordan Boone! Didn't think it could happen here, didja?

Doom 2099 #14 How can our would-be world monarch take command when everything around him is spinning out of control?

NEXT ISSUE

...and it all winds up here in PUNISHER #13! The Hammer falls...preferably not on our heroes! This one will have everything...and everybody!